Savings Organisation and allow it to function along with State run savings organisations in view of its successful functioning?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) The net small savings collections since the beginning of the First Five Year Plan have been showing an upward trend. This has been due to the combined efforts of the various agencies of the Central Government including the National Savings Organisation and the State Governments

(b) The National Savings Organisation has broadly achieved the objectives for which it was set up.

(c) and (d) There is, at present, no proposal to close the National Savings Organisation.

Level of expenditure on Savings Organisations under State Governments

5 SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) what is the comparative figures of expenditure on savings organisations by the States in comparison to Central Government's expenditure on National Savings Organisation, Statewise;

(b) what is the amount of expenditure borne by the Central Government on small savings organisations run by the States,

(c) what are reasons for Central expenditure on State-run small savings organisations when there is a National Savings Organisation under the Central Government,

(d) how the function of National Savings Organisation would be performed in case the organisation is wound up, and

(e) whether it is a fact that the pay scale and expenditure on officers of National Savings Organisation at District levels is far lower than their counterparts under the State Governments?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH). (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) and (c) The Central Government is not bearing any expenditure on the small savings organisations run by the States.

(d) There is no proposal to wind up the National Savings Organisation.

(e) There is no uniform pattern in the set up of the Savings Organisations run by the State Governments. A comparison with the district set up of the National Savings Organisation is not possible.

Representation against uniform policy for import of dates from Gulf countries

6. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have received any representations from the Amritsar Border Traders' Association, Amritsar regarding adopting a uniform policy for import of dates from Gulf countries; if so, the details thereof, and

(b) the decision taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAMDAS PATEL). (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A representation has been received from the Amritsar Border Traders' Association, Amritsar, requesting permission for import